

Baseball Season Launched by Preps



DON'T BELIEVE IT! — Carolyn Ellison (7) suspiciously eyes catch by Mark Thomsen (Huck Finn). Both youngsters are getting ready for Los Angeles Sportsmen's Vacation & Travel Show, March 29-April 7, at Pan-Pacific Auditorium. The Huck Finn Trout Pond will be one of the attractions of the outdoor show.

Press-Herald SPORTS

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Show Dates Told

Believe it or not, spring is busting out all over. Just take a look at your calendar. A dead give-away is the Los Angeles Sportsmen's Vacation & Travel Show, which each year officially starts the outdoor season for Southland sportsmen and vacationists alike.

The recreational extravaganza, with more than 500 exhibits valued in excess of \$15,000,000 and spread over an area of 250,000 square feet of space, begins Friday, March 29, and runs through Sunday, April 7, at Pan-Pacific Auditorium.

Producer H. Werner Buck said this year's 23rd edition of the nation's largest Sportsmen's Show is specifically designed for the entire family.

"It will be possible for the entire family to visit our show and plan a vacation, from a simple fishing or camping trip to an African safari," Buck pointed out.

Buck declared this year's "Vacation Row" would be the largest ever assembled. Booths representing many states, foreign countries, hunting and fishing lodges would occupy a major portion of the main building.

"Tackle Row" will feature complete lines of products from the world's leading manufacturers of fishing tackle.

Other exhibits will feature guns, boats, tents, fishing tackle, campers, travel trailers, motorhomes and hundreds of sporting goods items.

End of An Era

By HENRY BURKE
Press-Herald Sports Editor

The best recollection of my first confrontation with a sports hero was at the age of 7 while peddling papers along the Redondo Beach waterfront.

Each day of the week people flocked to Redondo on the Pacific Electric Railway to swim in the plunge and ocean or to gamble in one of the many casino parlors. The gambling ship, S.S. Rex, was anchored outside the limits of the city. Joe Louis was knocking out everybody. No one would bet against him.

An operator of one of the casinos whom the Burke brothers became acquainted with was Walter Melrose, a man of all trades. He bought a lot of newspapers from us. He was the manager of a bright young prize fighter and we were told any time his name or picture was in the Herald Express or Daily News, he would buy us out.

The boxer was California Jackie Wilson, a promising lightweight who was a main attraction at the Olympic Auditorium for eight years.

Another fighter of renown at the time was Pittsburgh Jackie Wilson. They were in the sports news so much a distinction had to be made in their names.

A few days after California Jackie won the state lightweight title, Walter Melrose paid a surprise visit to the home of Burkes. With him was the new champion. The excitement could be compared today with Casey Stengel showing up at someone's house with Mickey Mantle.

During World War II California Jackie went on a 2-year boxing tour with Joe Louis and other boxing greats.

Jackie's return to championship boxing was in the welterweight division. In his only shot at the world championship, Wilson lost to Sugar Ray Robinson in a 15-round bout in New York. Melrose could not stand to see his "champ" lose and had him retired without serious injury.

Walter Melrose was an ambitious man. He was a speculator. He wanted to get involved in everything. He was a businessman. Boxing was a hobby.

A boxer was never treated better by his manager than Jackie Wilson. Melrose bargained for some pretty good purses and turned over all earnings to the boxer. There was never thought of "jumping" to another camp, so prevalent in those days.

When California Jackie died at the age of 38, Melrose made provisions for his family's welfare.

Walter's career started out as a railroad brakeman. He got involved in gaming in Tijuana as a roulette wheel operator and used his income to get a law degree.

After the casinos were closed in Redondo, Melrose joined the parade to Las Vegas. He flirted with fortunes. He achieved tremendous wealth through real estate development in the Palm Springs area.

Melrose never had children. This may have been the reason he paid so much personal attention to a champion boxer and a few newspaper kids he met on the street corner.

Walter Melrose died last week of cancer at the age of 69 and was buried yesterday at Palm Springs.

Raceway To Race Hot Rods

A 1923 Model T Ford roadster, highly modified to reach speeds in excess of 200 mph, may steal some of the thunder from the more exotic fuel-burning dragsters in next weekend's 5th annual Hot Rod Magazine drag racing championships at Riverside Raceway.

Called the "Winged Express," the 1600-pound machine is the brainchild of owner A. A. Marcellus of Los Angeles and his driver, veteran Willie Borsch of Gardena. Together, the pair have accomplished near impossible feats with the car, to the delight of drag racing fans throughout the Southland.

Currently, they hold the National Hot Rod Association record in their class and are running fast enough and quick enough to compete with some of the more highly regarded dragsters.

Running in Class AA for fuel altered machines, Marcellus and Borsch have been clocked at 203.60 mph.

Golf Lessons To Be Given In Torrance

Registration for adult golf lessons are in progress at Sea-Aire Golf Course, 22730 Lupine Dr., and Hackers' Haven, 2335 W. Sepulveda Blvd.

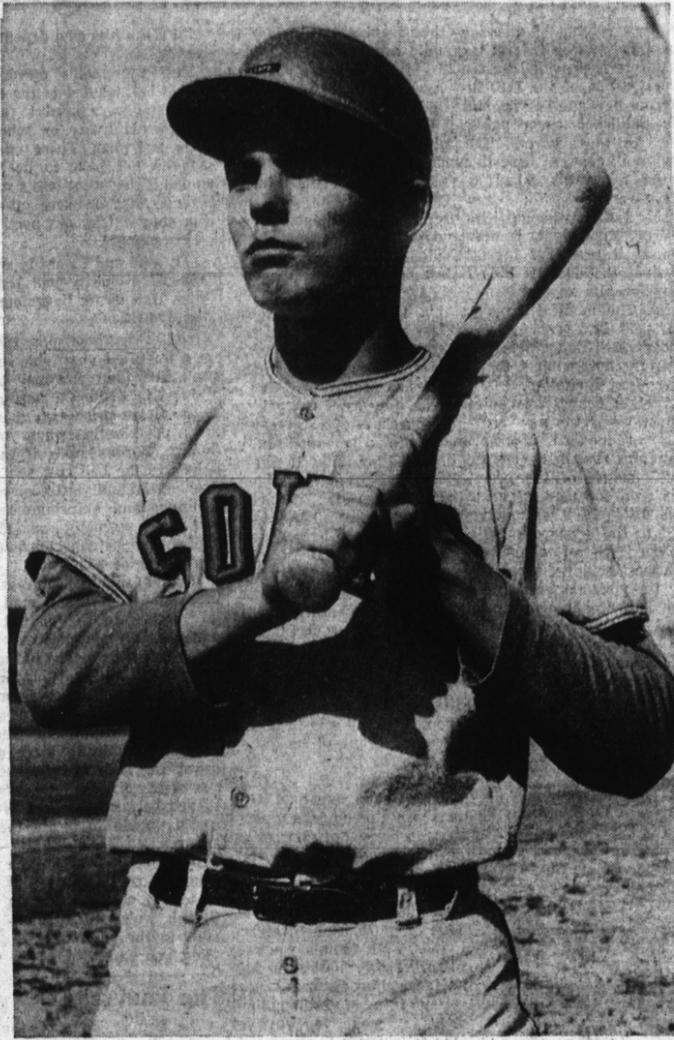
Both beginners and more experienced players can sign up for six lessons.

Beginners will learn fundamentals of short course play, use of nine and five irons and putter. Intermediates will polish their style and techniques while learning skills for a regulation course.

Lessons for beginners are scheduled for Tuesdays at 9, 10 and 11 a.m., also 5, 6 and 7 p.m. Intermediates will meet at 9 and 10 a.m. and 5 and 6 p.m. to Thursdays.

Registration is being taken at Joslyn Center, 3335 Torrance Blvd. A fee of \$3.75 will be charged for beginners and \$5.50 for intermediates. Both fees include clubs and balls.

For further information call the Joslyn Center at 328-8362.



SWITCHING POSITIONS . . . With the South High baseball team this season is outfielder Steve Lehto who played first base a year ago. The South High ball club is the defending Bay League champion and will open its 1968 season at home tomorrow against Inglewood. (Press-Herald Photo)

SOUTH HIGH BASEBALL

Spartans Possess Plenty of Hitting

By HENRY BURKE
Press-Herald Sports Editor

After winning the Bay League baseball championship in a showdown with Redondo last year, South High may have the momentum to keep going in '68.

Baseball depends so much on pitching it is unlikely that even a strong hitting ball club like South can walk to the pennant, but South should be there when it's all over.

Most of Coach Jerry McIlvaine's varsity played with the Junior American Legion team that won the state championship last summer. The hero of the series was Pitcher Dick Foulk. After the high school season in which he was third behind Glenn Thompson and Pat Atkins, Foulk registered an 11-0 record in Legion and had a 1.58 earned record. He is a lefthander.

McIlvaine seems to have an assortment of pitchers. Wade Linstad who played the outfield last year will be the No. 2 starter. Dennis Rector, Dan Creek and Jim Anderson are on the staff.

If McIlvaine needs somebody to work out of a jam, he will probably bring Dan Pace in from shortstop to pitch.

McIlvaine put off until this weekend naming his starting lineup. He said he thought of a thousand combinations.

He has decided to build a strong outfield. Not only is



JERRY McILVAINE

the starting trio tough defensively, but it is loaded with power.

Centerfielder Jeff Wang

and Leftfielder Steve Lehto were All-Bay League players last winter for the Spartans. Lehto has been moved into the outfield from first base. Rick Hrehor, a junior is also in the starting lineup.

A number of other changes has been worked out by McIlvaine. Team captain Steve Trudell is back at third base, but he could wind up in the outfield. It all hinges on the ability of junior first sacker Brent Barron to hit. If not, Lehto will go back to first base and Trudell will play the outfield.

Third base would then go to Ray Ricks.

Pace has shifted to shortstop after a year at second base. Playing second is Steve Shrader who made an impression during Legion time.

Veteran catcher Bubba Atkeisson will be backed by Glynn Winters.

In his assessment of the league, McIlvaine says Hawthorne has the pitching and the defending champion junior varsity team. Santa Monica looks strong and North High has a lot of hustle and young talent.

Redondo, which was a nuisance for South until the championship was decided in nine innings last year, 1-0, is now out of contention. McIlvaine warned, however, that Jim Bridewiser is too good of a coach to end up last.

Parnelli Enters Race

Parnelli Jones, one of the biggest names in auto racing, has entered the Mint "400" Del Webb Desert Rally.

Jones drove the controversial Turbine car for Andy Granatelli at Indianapolis and will be driving a Ford Bronco 289 in the four-wheel drive class.

Bill Stroppe of Long Beach, who heads up the Ford racing team, said Jones will have Ray Harvick of Los Angeles as co-driver in the 400-mile cross country race.

The \$16,000 in prize money will be awarded to winners in four classes. The race will start at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 3, and end approximately 21 hours later.

The Mint "400" is the first and richest race of its kind ever held in the United States for Off-Road vehicles.

Jones has raced in every conceivable type of auto racing. However, this will be the first time he has entered this style of racing. Jones' entry

makes the Mint "400" race a testing ground for other big name drivers.

"I think this will prove to be an interesting race," Jones told officials. "If it turns out like I think, you might see a lot more professional drivers entering future races of this kind."

Bobby Unser, also of Indy "500" fame and the Pikes Peak Hill Climb champion, owns a Dune Buggy and has indicated his interest in entering the Mint "400."

Bay Leaguers Start Monday

The Bay League is getting ready for its toughest baseball season in history. The seven participants will play an 18-game schedule in a 7-week span. The only interruption will be a rotation of by dates and spring vacation.

The campaign will start tomorrow with South entertaining Inglewood, Hawthorne at North, and Redondo at Santa Monica. Mira Costa has a bye.

The same teams will clash again on Wednesday at opposite fields.

On Friday Redondo plays at South, North at Mira Costa, and Santa Monica at Hawthorne. They also meet a week from Monday. The schedule goes on that way through the first 12 games.

Pitchers are allowed nine innings a week. As long as a pitcher on Monday does not pitch Wednesday, he can pitch as much as necessary on Friday.

The Sky League got off to a typical first week by playing two rounds of 1-run victories.

The only rout was Culver City's 13-1 win over Torrance. Earlier in the week the Tartars edged Culver 3-2.

Leuzinger edged Rolling Hills, 3-2, but the Titans came back to gain a 6-5 win over Leuzinger.

Morningside picked up the only double victory by nipping Beverly Hills, 5-4 and 6-5.

In the Pioneer League West won a 6-2 game from Lennox. Aviation downed defending champion El Segundo, 7-5, and Palos Verdes scored four in the seventh to beat Lawndale, 10-9.

In a non-league game Friday West edged Rolling Hills, 4-2.

Crespi has a 2-0 record in the Camino Real League after disposing of Bishop Montgomery, 1-0, and St. Monica's, 4-2, during the first week of play.

Montgomery came back to beat Daniel Murphy, 9-2.

Fermin Lasuen beat St. Monica's, 4-1, but lost to St. Bernard's, 1-0.

Chuck Desiderio pitched a one-hitter for Montgomery's first league win.

Montgomery, 9-2

Montgomery	220	113	0	9	11	2
Murphy	000	110	0	2	1	0

Pioneer League

Lennox	001	010	0	2	3	1
West	100	005	x	8	9	1
Jensen and Szastrak	Mullen and Johnson					
Palos Verdes	040	002	4	10	10	1
Lawndale	221	220	0	9	15	1
Coffman, Babcock and Swick	Ashworth, Stearns and Rubio					
Aviation	040	002	1	7	9	3
El Segundo	300	002	0	5	7	3
Anderson, Caudell, Holly and Lippy	Johnson, Gentry, Dobos and Marikos					

Camino Real

Crespi	2	0	1.000	—
St. Bernard	1	0	1.000	1/4
Montgomery	1	1	.500	1
Lasuen	1	1	.500	1
Murphy	0	1	.000	1/4
St. Monica	0	2	.000	2

Sky League

Morningside	2	0	1.000	—
Leuzinger	1	1	.500	1
Torrance	1	1	.500	1
Culver City	1	1	.500	1
Rolling Hills	1	1	.500	1
Beverly Hills	0	2	.000	2

El Camino Nine Loses to Valley

Valley College edged El Camino, 8-2, in a Metropolitan Conference baseball game Friday. The Warriors' second loss dropped them to third place.

The Monarchs scored the winning run in the eighth inning.

El Camino lost two games this week after winning three in a row.

Long Beach is in first place with a 4-1 record.

How They Should Finish

Bay League	Camino Real
1. South.	1. Crespi.
2. North.	2. Montgomery.
3. Santa Monica.	3. St. Bernard.
4. Hawthorne.	4. Fermin Lasuen.
5. Redondo.	5. St. Monica's.
6. Inglewood.	6. Murphy.
7. Mira Costa.	

Acceleration By Parnelli Caused 'Loss'

Andy Granatelli, Chicago industrialist who is fighting the U.S. Auto Club over turbine race car rules, Tuesday attributed troubles at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway last May to driver Parnelli Jones.

Testifying in U.S. District Court Granatelli said Jones "got his kicks" from fast acceleration of the STP turbine in practice and this caused repeated gear failures.

Then, in the 500-mile Memorial Day race, Jones was running away from the field when the gears failed with less than 10 miles to go.

"I continually warned him from the first time he got into the car not to step on the gas as soon as he let up on the brake," Granatelli said.

He is in the second week of a trial in which he seeks to force USAC to restore 1967 turbine specifications so he can try again with last year's big Pratt & Whitney engine.

Basketball Clinic Set For Coaches

Torrance Unified School District will send its four basketball coaches to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Clinic in Los Angeles Friday and Saturday.

Attending the two-day event, co-sponsored by the National Basketball Coaches Association, will be Will Boeger, of Torrance High School, David Corman of South High School, Skip Enger of North High School, and Tom Sutherland of West High School.

Four Coaches To Attend Symposium

Representing Torrance Unified School District at a symposium on shoulder and elbow injuries in athletics in Los Angeles Saturday, March 30, will be coaches William Clarrishan of Torrance High, Dennis Haryung of West High, Ed Levy of North High, and Jerry McIlvaine of South High.